कार्यरत अल्प वयस्क बालकों और मजदूरों में सिलिकोसिस जैसी खतरनाक बीमारियों के पाए जाने की बात कही गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इस समस्या के समाधान हेतु अब तक कोई कदम उठाया है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) क्या सरकार इन खानों में काम कर रहे बच्चों को मुक्त कराने के लिए कारगर कदम उठा रही है;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(च) वहां काम कर रहे सभी श्रमिकों की चिकित्सकीय जांच और रोग निदान हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या प्रबन्ध किए गए हैं?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सलीम इकबाल शेरवानी): (क) से (च) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Request by Financial Institutions for Relaxation of Lending

941. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to obviating the cash-crunch in the market, the financial institutions (FIs) have requested Government for relaxation of lending norms;

(b) if so, what specific difficulties were enumerated to Government by the FIs; -and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) No, Sir. The lending norms are decided by the financial institutions on their own without reference to Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Applications Pending with Settlement Commission

942. SHRI GOPAL SINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) particulars of applications (year-wise and bench-wise) lying pending in principl bench and other benches of Settlement Commission (Income tax & wealth tax), alongwith the date of filing of applications and amount of tax admitted in each case and circumstances under which these specific applications were neither admitted nor rejected while other applications filed even later than these were admitted and settled; and

(b) the reasons that supervisory/controlling Ministry had not kept any check/
control on the activities of this commissioninsipite of adverse remarks in the report of the Tax Reforms Committee headed by Shri C. Raja Chellaiah?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) The particulars of pendency of applications for admission and admitted cases pending (year-wise) are submitted in the statement 'A' and 'B', enclosed *(see* below). The time which will be spent in collecting the information in each case will not be commensurate with the purpose for which the Question has been asked. Ordinarily settlement applications are taken up for admission in chronological order. However, in exceptional circumstances applications are taken up for admission out of turn. Such circumstances include cases or group of cases where additional tax offered is more than Rs. 10 lakhs, grouping of cases for consolidated and coordinated disposal of entire group of cases, cases where admission hearing is not necessary and cases where the reports of the Commissioner of Income-tax have been received even though filed later than other cases.